

Intervention: Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies (PATHS)

Finding: Insufficient evidence to determine effectiveness

Potential partners to undertake the intervention:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nonprofits or local coalitions | <input type="checkbox"/> Businesses or labor organizations |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Schools or universities | <input type="checkbox"/> Media |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Health care providers | <input type="checkbox"/> Local public health departments |
| <input type="checkbox"/> State public health departments | <input type="checkbox"/> Policymakers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitals, clinics or managed care organizations | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: |

Background on the intervention:

The Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies (PATHS) curriculum is a comprehensive program that promotes the development of social and emotional competencies in children during the elementary school years as a means to reduce aggression and other behavior problems.

Findings from the systematic reviews:

The Office of Educational Research and Improvement (OERI) found insufficient evidence to determine effectiveness for this intervention. Practices that lack sufficient research to support effectiveness should not be confused with ineffective programs. Rather, they should be recognized as programs that have the potential to become evidence-based practices—if properly evaluated. Practitioners are encouraged to monitor the impact of these programs in their communities and report on their findings in order to build a base of knowledge sufficient to reach consensus.

The National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) recommended PATHS. See the link below for more information.

Additional information:

PATHS - www.prevention.psu.edu/projects/PATHS.htm

References:

OERI - [Exemplary and Promising: Safe, Disciplined, and Drug-Free Schools Programs](http://www.ed.gov/admins/lead/safety/exemplary01) - www.ed.gov/admins/lead/safety/exemplary01

NIDA - [Preventing Drug Use Among Children and Adolescents: A Research-Based Guide](http://www.nida.nih.gov/Prevention/Prevopen.html) - www.nida.nih.gov/Prevention/Prevopen.html